

Edwards: Navasota, Bryan, & College Station ISDs Receive \$979,000 Department of Education Grant to Expand American History Education in the Brazos Valley

(WASHINGTON, DC) - U.S. Representative Chet Edwards today announced that school districts in Navasota, Bryan, and College Station have been selected to share in a \$978,667 grant from the U.S. Department of Education under the Teaching American History Grant Program. The funds will allow Brazos Valley 5th-12th grade history teachers the opportunity to take part in intensive professional development studies to advance their understanding and teaching of American history.

"This worthwhile program will help teachers expand their understanding of American history, which will translate into higher academic achievement for their students," Edwards said. "This program is a win-win. Anytime the federal government can aid local school districts in preparing students to succeed, it is a wise investment in the future."

Dr. Dawn Marie Baletka - Navasota ISD, Director of Public Relations and Grant Services said, "We are honored to be selected for the Teaching American History Grant. This grant will allow history teachers from Bryan, College Station, and Navasota to engage in professional development activities that enable them to interact with national historians and to study at historical places throughout the country in week long immersion experiences. We are truly excited because by gaining both extensive knowledge and advanced collaborative teaching strategies we believe our teachers will be able to enhance student academic achievement and appreciation for our nation's history."

The three school districts, in partnership with the Texas A&M University George Bush Presidential Library, National Council for History Education, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History will participate in a program designed to raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge and understanding of and appreciation for traditional U.S. history. By helping teachers to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of U.S. history as a separate subject matter within the core curriculum, these programs will improve instruction and raise student achievement.

